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SECRET ATTACHMENT TO MIL/8274

Subject: FROELICH and a Branch of the Amt BLANK

Bernardowitsch

1. I have known Sergei B. FROELICH, also known as Sergei Borissowitch ORLOFF, also known as Sergei Borissowitch FROELICH since 1943 when we met while he was serving as a liaison officer between the German Abwehr and General VLASSOV'S staff.

2. FROELICH, to the best of my knowledge, was born in Riga, Latvia and still speaks German with a very slight accent. His father owned a construction company in Riga and FROELICH himself is an engineer by profession, specializing in the installation of heating and sanitation units.

3. After the occupation of Latvia by the Soviets, FROELICH remained in Riga and worked for a Soviet construction firm. A short while later, as a result of an exchange of persons arranged by the German and Soviet Governments, FROELICH came to Germany and enlisted in the army. In 1943 he was assigned as a liaison officer between the Abwehr and VLASSOV. In this position he was instrumental in getting positions on the ROA staff for numerous refugees from Latvia.

4. After the war FROELICH with his wife, daughter, and son moved from Berlin to Bayreuth and from there to Munich in 1946. In Munich he obtained a position with LINDEX. At this time FROELICH came into contact with Konstantin KHOMIADI, a Russian emigre who was attempting the unification of various Russian emigre groups. FROELICH came under the influence of KHOMIADI at this time and, because of his position with LINDEX, he was able to obtain a house in Jensenstrasse 2, which was set up as a center for Russian emigre activities and from which the LINDEX company leased two rooms in the basement for storeroom space.

NOTE: A separate report concerning the personalities and activities surrounding the Jensenstrasse villa will be forthcoming.

A short while later FROELICH moved to this address with his family. Still later, the exact date is uncertain, FROELICH obtained a position with the AIS operating out of offices located in Galilei Platz 2 in Munich. Two of FROELICH'S close friends, one RUSCHMANN, (inn), and one Leo TUDIN also worked in this office.

5. In 1951 FROELICH approached me and asked me to work for the Americans. He stated that he was especially interested in debriefing former German prisoners-of-war from Russia who have returned to Germany. In addition, he was interested in debriefing deserters and refugees who had entered Western Germany. I turned down this work at this time because I was employed in a special school run by the Americans in Regensburg where I was instructing in matters concerning artillery.

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6. In the winter of 1951 I met FROELICH again and he announced that he was no longer working with the Americans but for a branch of the German IS. He explained that although this branch was not fully active as yet, it would become the official German IS once a German Army had been developed. He also explained that this branch of the German IS which he represented was short on material and personnel but as soon as its leader, BLANK, became a minister, the organization would get on its feet. He asked me at this time if I would be willing in the future to return to the U.S.S.R. as an agent. He explained that his organization had developed channels through Czechoslovakia extending to Rumania which were perfectly secure in approaching the U.S.S.R. I refused his offer and he said he was sorry but that if I ever should be willing, I had only to let him know. Then he suggested once again that I could be very helpful if I should assist in obtaining material concerning the U.S.S.R. from prisoners-of-war who had returned to Germany. I agreed to this. FROELICH claimed that he had left the AIS because he was extremely disappointed in the lack of professional capabilities he had encountered in his work with the AIS. He claimed that the only possibility for truly professional work was under the direction of the embryonic German Intelligence Service.

7. In my work with returning prisoners-of-war I normally received about twenty DMs for each debriefing. I wrote a number of reports concerning railroad lines in Russia, various Russian military installations, and also was able on the basis of information I obtained to write a detailed report concerning a new Russian tank regiment with an entirely new type of organization. This particular report evidently pleased FROELICH'S superiors very much because I was given a bonus for it. I also was requested to write a detailed report concerning my knowledge of Russian infantry rockets and to outline my opinions concerning their future development. I was offered 150 DMs for this report but was paid 250 DMs after it had been submitted. FROELICH explained simply that the report was worth more than 150 DMs. FROELICH suggested once again that I accept a steady job with the Amt BLANK as a principal agent but I refused inasmuch as I hoped to emigrate to the United States.

8. During my recent trip to Germany I got in contact with FROELICH in order to obtain his assistance in acquiring documentation as a representative of LINDEX in Austria. I told FROELICH that I wanted to return to Austria in order to engage in black-marketing, primarily with coffee. FROELICH knew that in the years 1946 and 1947 I had traveled frequently to Austria under false documentation in order to engage in black-marketing and gave every evidence of believing that this was my purpose at this time; however, he possibly supposes that I am employed by the AIS. FROELICH took me to the LINDEX offices where I already knew several of the personnel and I was able to obtain the necessary papers. FROELICH introduced me to the various LINDEX personnel as "Antonov" by which name most of the people knew me. When it was requested

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that the necessary papers be made out in my present alias, it was not considered unusual because I am well known as a former VLASSOV man and it is expected that I have a myriad of aliases.

9. After FROELICH and I arranged the necessary documentation matters with LINDEL, FROELICH approached me again to work for the Amt BLANK. He explained that he could make my stay in Vienna much simpler if I were willing to work for his office. He reasoned that as long as I was to be in Vienna in any event, it would be only logical that I could be of service in working against the Soviets in that area. Moreover, I could earn some extra money. He suggested that I should have a personal meeting with his chief (presumably BLANK himself). He said further that the Amt BLANK already had a number of representatives in Vienna who could furnish me with safe houses and also familiarize me with their working methods and their basic targets. He said, moreover, that life in Vienna was anything but safe, especially in view of the many pro-Communist Austrian policemen and that contact with the Amt BLANK representatives would greatly enhance my physical security. He said that he himself had nothing to do with the work that was being done in Vienna and therefore he hoped to introduce me to his chief who could better explain to me the exact situation and the possibilities for approaching the Soviet target. He mentioned in passing that correspondence would pose no problem inasmuch as the Amt BLANK had numerous possibilities for sending secret documents from Vienna to Munich in complete security.

10. I tentatively agreed to meet FROELICH'S chief but inasmuch as I considered this to be somewhat risky, I arranged the meeting shortly before my return to Vienna and called FROELICH'S office and announced that because of an unexpected change in my plans, I had to leave immediately for Vienna and was sorry to miss the opportunity to have a meeting with his chief. I said that I would contact FROELICH the first time I returned to Munich from Vienna.

11. To the best of my knowledge the Amt BLANK has its offices in Munich in Lehmingerstrasse 110-C. The cover of this office is Institut fuer Erforschung der Gegenwart. FROELICH serves both as chief of this particular office. He has one male assistant who is German and is about thirty years old. He also has a German secretary, a woman whom I believe doubles as FROELICH'S mistress. One other person in the office is a certain WJINSKI, (fmu,) (also mentioned in the separate report on Jensenstrasse 2), who was associated with VLASSOV during the war. He is a former Russian expert on small arms and the author of the basic field manual of the Soviet Army on small arms, which to the best of my knowledge is still in use today. There also are a number of other personalities in this office, the identity of whom is unknown to me.

12. This particular branch of the Amt BLANK has a fairly sizeable net of informants whose primary job seems to be to interview returning prisoners-of-war from the U.S.S.R. They also collect various intelligence information

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and pieces of Soviet military equipment. The material obtained from the various debriefings is collated and the final results are checked with specialists on the Soviet Army, Air Force, and so forth. This particular branch of the Amt BLANK also has a separate office in Berlin. FROELICH himself travels fairly often to Berlin and presumably works with a separate group there. FROELICH has told me that the Berlin group works very closely with the Berlin Criminal Police. FROELICH went so far as to tell me that meetings in Western Berlin with informants from East Germany or the Soviet sector of Berlin are surveilled by members of the Berlin Criminal Police in order to prevent abduction attempts. Several months ago shortly before coming to Vienna I met a man, whose name escapes me, who is a close friend of FROELICH. He told me that FROELICH'S office in conjunction with unknown other offices had established a number of rug companies ostensibly engaged in the export and import of rugs between East and West Germany. The main office of this company allegedly is in Stuttgart. He added the very likely conclusion that the company served only as a cover concern for intelligence work.